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1 **SYSTEM, APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR THE DETECTION AND**
2 **REMOVAL OF VIRUSES IN MACROS**

4 **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5 The detection and removal of viruses from macros is disclosed. A macro
6 virus detection module includes a macro locating and decoding module, a macro
7 virus scanning module, a macro treating module, a file treating module, and a virus
8 information module. The macro locating and decoding module determines
9 whether a targeted file includes a macro, and, where a macro is found, locates and
10 decodes it to produce a decoded macro. The macro virus scanning module
11 accesses the decoded macro and scans it to determine whether it includes any
12 viruses. Unknown macro viruses are detected by the macro virus scanning module
13 by obtaining comparison data that includes sets of instruction identifiers from the
14 virus information module and determining whether the decoded macro includes a
15 combination of suspect instructions which correspond to instruction identifiers.
16 The macro treating module locates suspect instructions in the decoded macro using
17 the comparison data and removes the suspect instructions to produce a treated
18 macro. The file correcting module accesses a targeted file with an infected macro
19 and replaces the infected macro with the treated macro produced by the macro
20 treating module.

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